

ITAL 403 Spring 2025

Studies in Colonialism and Postcolonialism

BLACK ITALY

Professor Gian Maria Annovi

Through the twentieth century, Africa has been a substantial part of Italian culture and imagination, from the colonial time, up to present day immigration. This course will examine the role that ideologies of race have played in the representation of blackness in modern Italian culture. In particular, we will analyze the idea of race in Italian literature and cinema, focusing on how depictions and discussion of blackness characterize Italians' attitude to the history of colonialism, to the contemporary debate over immigration, and to the shifting notion of Italian national identity.

Students will be exposed to a large selection of texts, including fiction, critical works, memoirs and travel literature by Italian authors (Marinetti, Flaiano, Moravia) and first-generation immigrant writers of African descent (Pap Kouma and Salah Methani). Films will be used to study the representation of African colonial subjects in Fascist cinema, the portrayal of blackness in Neo-realist and post-war cinema (Rossellini, Lattuada, Pasolini), and in contemporary Italian cinema.

In Italian.

**Monday & Wednesday
2:00-3:20pm THH 205**

Please email annovi@usc.edu
for any questions

